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JUL 24 2007

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

July 12, 2007

Ms. Monica Desai
Media Bureau
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Proposed Termination of Exclusive Service/Access Contracts

Dear Ms. Desai:

Video Associates is an Ohio General Partnership which has been in the private Cable TV business since the early 1980's. It presently provides cable, telephone and internet services to the 1200 residents of two apartment complexes in the Youngstown, Ohio area.

It is not possible to serve these residents with our "custom tailored" levels of alternatives without the right of exclusivity which we presently have. Banks and other lenders insist upon such exclusivity before granting loans for the construction of upgrades or requested improvements. We have periodically upgraded the levels of our services and would not be able to do so without exclusivity. Otherwise, the private operator could not meaningfully compete with franchised cable which, for all practical purposes, has exclusivity as well. Please also remember that such exclusivity is not imposed by federal mandate, but is a matter of private contract between the apartment complex owner and the Cable TV service provider. We strongly oppose any action by the Commission which would do away with these exclusive arrangements.

Further, to terminate existing exclusive contracts would certainly deprive Video Associates of its continued right to benefit from our right to contract and the corresponding right of the apartment complex owner to select the service provider that he determines to be better qualified for his residents.

Accordingly, I strongly request that the Commission deny this "power grab" by Verizon and AT&T to squeeze out the smaller operators in the business.

Please include this letter in the record for FCC 07-32, MB 07-51.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

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RICHARD P. McLAUGHLIN

RPM:mm